

# County Snapshot

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**San Francisco City and County** are located on the northern tip of a peninsula at the entrance to San Francisco Bay and are bordered by the Pacific Ocean on the west, Golden Gate Strait on the north, the Bay on the east, and San Mateo County to the south. Alcatraz, Angel, Treasure, and Buena Islands are part of the county.

With a population of 788,975 in 1999 and a projected population of 750,900 by 2020, San Francisco County is one of only a few counties in the state expected to lose population during this period.

The 1999 annual average statistics show the civilian labor force for the county to be 422,000 with an unemployment rate of 3.0 percent. This is significantly lower than the state's unemployment rate of 5.2 percent for the same year.

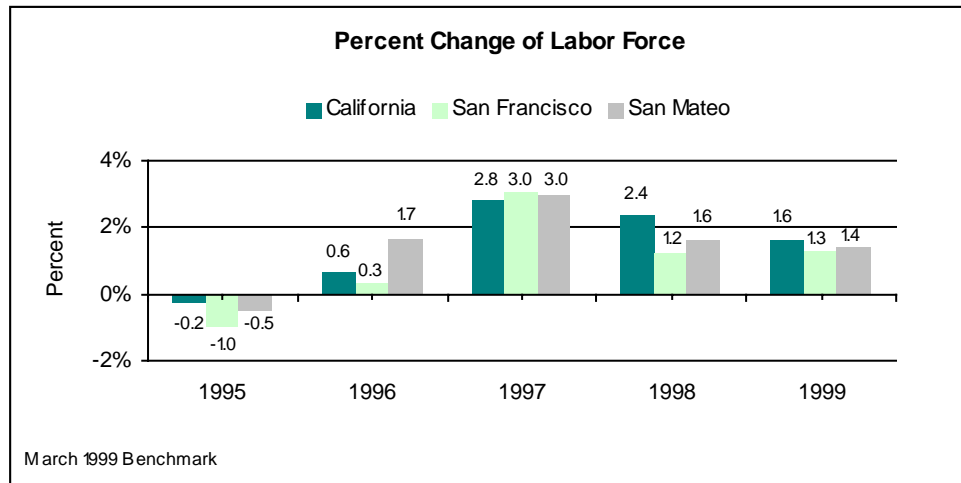
Services is the largest industry in the county accounting for 39.2 percent of total employment with business services being the largest component. Other significant industry sectors providing employment are retail trade at 14.6 percent and government at 13.6 percent.

Services is the fastest growing industry with a seven year projected growth rate of 24.7 percent. Rapid growth in this area is due to the increasing demand for business services and amusement services.

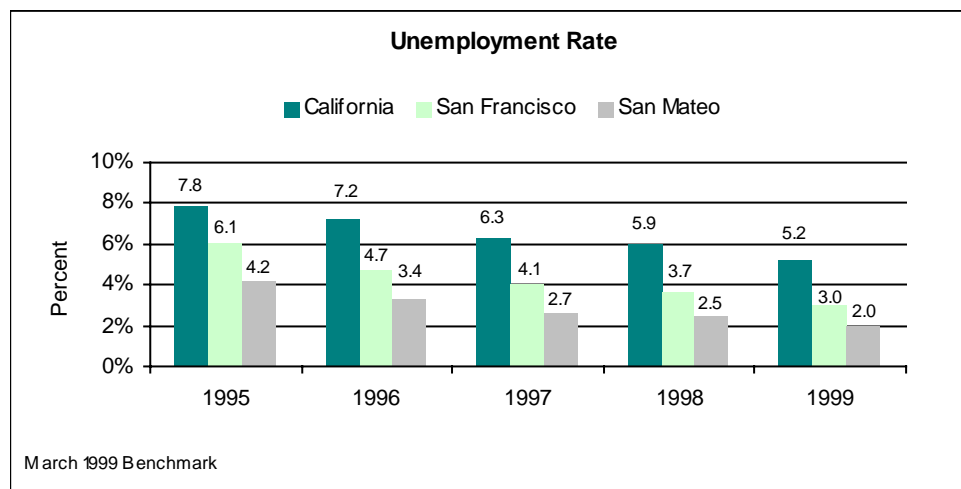
San Francisco County is expected to show steady industry employment growth inspite of a declining population.

## LABOR FORCE

San Francisco County's civilian labor force failed to keep pace with that of the state in 1995. Yet a positive growth trend began in 1996 and continued with a significant gain in 1997. Although 1998 shows a slight decline in the growth rate, San Francisco and San Mateo counties show substantial gains over the 1995 – 1999 period.

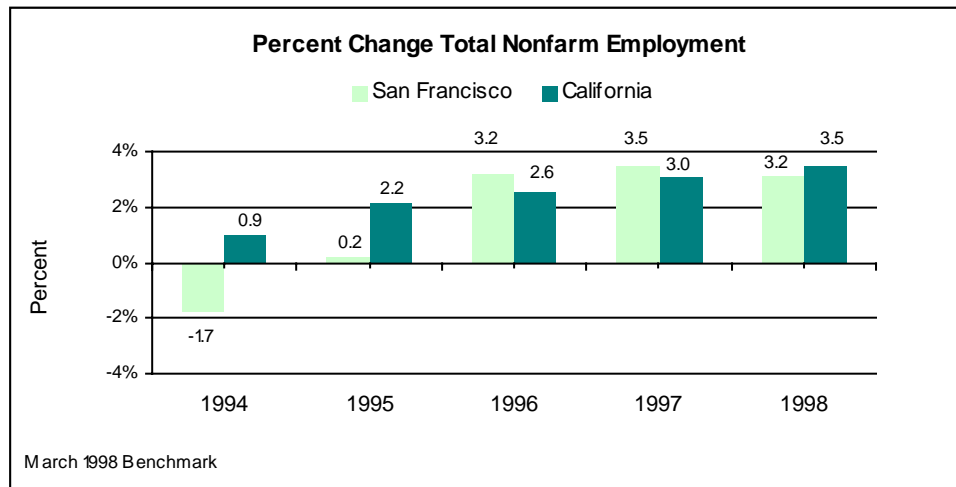


From 1995 - 1999, unemployment rates are lower for San Francisco and San Mateo counties than for the state, indicative of the increasing employment opportunities in the area. Since 1996, San Francisco has been consistently 2.2 percentage points or more below the state rate. San Francisco and San Mateo counties enjoy two of the lowest unemployment rates in the state.

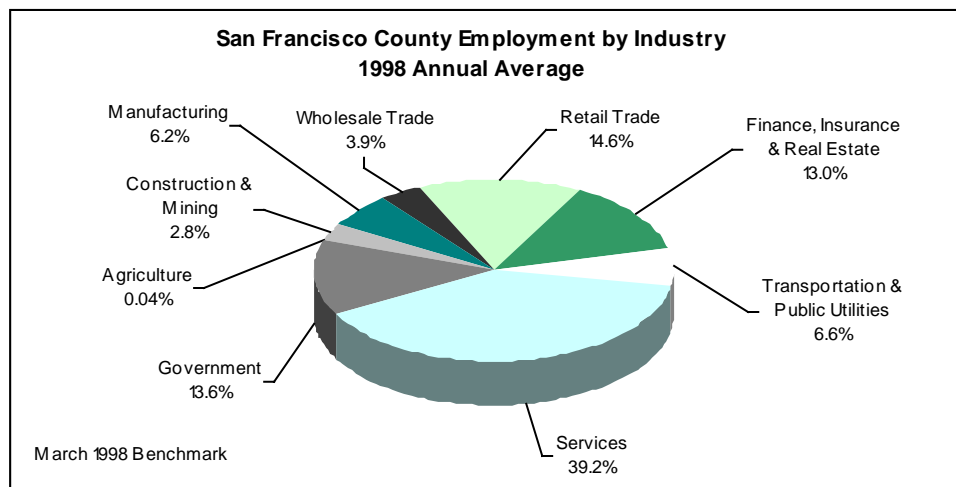


## INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

San Francisco County nonagricultural wage and salary employment rebounded from a year over decline of 1.7 percent in 1994 to a gain of 3.5 percent in 1997, maintaining 3.2 percent growth in 1998. Payroll employment over this period (1994 – 1998), grew by 53,600 or 10.5 percent. Services accounted for the greatest growth with a gain of 35,700 jobs.



In 1998, San Francisco County employment was dominated by services, retail trade and government sectors. Projections for this area indicate that construction, services and retail trade will account for most of the job growth forecast from 1995 to 2002.



## OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Demographic trends, shifts in demands for products or services, technological innovations and the way business is conducted are some of the variables that drive employment in an occupation up or down. Also, occupations which have large employment and have high turnover rates generally provide the most job openings. San Francisco County is projected to have more employment opportunities in the high turnover occupations.

Associated Occupations	<b>SERVICES</b> <b>1995 – 2002 Projected Growth 24.7%</b>
	<b>Janitors, Cleaners, Except Maids – 2250 job openings.</b> Keep buildings in clean and orderly condition; perform heavy cleaning duties such as operating motor driven cleaning equipment, mopping floors, washing walls and glass, and removing rubbish. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.49
	<b>Secretaries General – 1630 job openings.</b> Schedule appointments, give information to callers, take dictation, compose and type routine correspondence, read and route incoming mail, and file correspondence and other records. Post-secondary vocational education. Median Hourly Wage - \$15.11
	<b>General Managers, Top Executives – 1610 job openings.</b> Include both top and mid-level managers whose duties and responsibilities are too diverse and general in nature to be classified in any functional or line area of management and administration. Work Experience, plus a Bachelor's or higher. Median Hourly Wage - \$40.51
	<b>Guards And Watch Guards – 1370 job openings.</b> Stand guard at entrance gates or walk about premises of businesses, industrial establishments, or private residences to prevent theft, violence or infractions of rules. Direct patrons or employees, control traffic. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.86
	<b>Receptionists, Information Clerks – 1240 job openings.</b> Answer inquiries and obtain information for the general public concerning activities conducted at an establishment, such as the location of offices or persons within the firm, departments within the store, or services within the hotel. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$10.85
Associated Occupations	<b>CONSTRUCTION &amp; MINING</b> <b>1995 – 2002 Projected Growth 22.3%</b>
	<b>Carpenters – 270 job openings.</b> Perform the carpentry duties necessary to make or repair wooden structures, structural members, and fixtures and equipment using carpentry tools and woodworking machines. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$20.07
	<b>Construction Managers – 210 job openings.</b> Plan, organize, direct, control, or coordinate, usually through subordinate supervisory personnel, activities concerned with the construction and maintenance of structures, facilities, and systems. Bachelor's Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$34.62
	<b>Painters, Paperhangers, Construction – 190 job openings.</b> Painters paint walls, equipment, buildings, bridges, and other structural surfaces, using brushes, rollers, and spray guns. Paperhangers cover interior walls and ceilings of rooms with decorative wallpaper or fabric, or attach advertising poster on surfaces. Moderate-term on-the job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$15.46
	<b>Electricians – 170 job openings.</b> Install, maintain, and repair wiring, electrical equipment, and fixtures. They ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$23.50
	<b>Systems Analyst, Electrical Data Processor – 10 job openings.</b> Analyze business, scientific, and technical problems for application to electronic data processing systems. Moderate-term on-the job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$30.95
Associated Occupations	<b>RETAIL TRADE</b> <b>1995 – 2002 Projected Growth 9.9%</b>
	<b>Salespersons, Retail – 1760 job openings.</b> Get the customer interested by describing the merchandise and showing how it is used. May also order merchandise, stock shelves, mark price tags, take inventory and prepare displays. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.30
	<b>Waiters And Waitresses – 1230 job openings.</b> Serve food and drink to customers. Duties may include explanation about how the meal is prepared, wine recommendations or simple food preparation at the table. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.26
	<b>Cashiers – 890 job openings.</b> Handle cash and credit payments, make change, give receipts, account for all payments, and perform related clerical duties. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.40
	<b>Food Preparation Workers – 480 job openings.</b> Keep kitchen work areas clean and orderly, keep restaurant equipment and utensils clean, move supplies and wash dishes, trays, pots and pans used in cooking and serving. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.77
	<b>Cooks Restaurant – 350 job openings.</b> Prepare, season, and cook soups, meats, vegetables, desserts, and other foodstuffs in restaurants. May order supplies, keep records and accounts, price items on a menu, or plan the menu. Long-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$9.58

This **County Snapshot** is a product of:  
State of California  
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Labor Market Information Division  
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